

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 02370 092012Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SP-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 TAR-01 AGR-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /049 W

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R 091611Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 791

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 2370

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SZ

SUBJECT: SWISS IMPORT QUOTA FOR U.S. BEEF: COUNTERVAILING DUTY  
INVESTIGATION ON CHEESE

REF: A) BERN 1291; B) BERN 1133; C) STATE 55109

1. AS REPORTED REFTELS A AND B, SWISS DIVISION OF COMMERCE HAS INFORMED SWISS IMPORTERS OF HIGH QUALITY FRESH/CHILLED U.S. BEEF UNDER 300 METRIC TON PER YEAR SPECIAL QUOTA THAT IT UNABLE RECOMMEND TO DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE THAT QUOTA BE EXTENDED BEYOND EXPIRY DATE OF JUNE 30 SO LONG AS SWISS EXPORTS OF CHEESE OT U.S. SUBJECT TO "THREAT" OF POSSIBLE IMPOSITION OF COUNTERVAILING DUTIES.

2. SHOULD TREASURY ISSUE NEGATIVE PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION, WE EXPECT DIVISION OF COMMERCE WILL QUICKLY TAKE STEPS TO SEE THAT U.S. BEEF QUOTA IS REOPENED. IF POSITIVE DETERMINATION MADE, WE DOUBT THAT BEEF QUOTA WILL BE EXTENDED, ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THAT IF TREASURY MAKES SPECIAL EFFORT TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES OF SWISS CASE THROUGH, FOR EXAMPLE, SIMULTANEOUS INVOCATION OF WAIVER, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SWISS COULD BE PERSUADED REOPEN BEEF QUOTA, PERHAPS ON UNDERSTANDING THAT BEEF QUOTA WOULD BE WITHDRAWN IF CHEESE WAIVER REVOKED. WE HOPE THAT THIS ASPECT CAN BE KEPT IN MIND SHOULD AMBASSADOR  
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PAGE 02 BERN 02370 092012Z

JACOBI OF DIVISION OF COMMERCE VISIT WASHINGTON PRIOR FINAL

DECISION. (BERN 2348) EMBASSY WILL ALSO SEEK FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH GOS OFFICIALS OF BEEF SITUATION ONCE OUTLINES OF CHEESE DECISION CLEARLY KNOWN.

3. BACKGROUND. CLOSE TIE DRAWN BY SWISS BETWEEN TREATMENT OF BEEF IMPORTS FROM US AND CHEESE EXPORTS TO US DERIVES FROM ORIGIN OF SPECIAL BEEF QUOTA IN 1967. AT THAT TIME SWISS IN EFFECT EXPRESSED UNILATERAL APPRECIATION FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED SWISS CHEESE UNDER U.S. IMPORT QUOTA THROUGH ESTABLISHMENT OF VALUE BRACKET BY GRANTING SPECIAL IMPORT QUOTA OF 100 TONS PER YEAR FOR HIGH QUALITY BEEF FROM U.S. NO OTHER COUNTRY HAS SEPARATE ALLOCATION; SALES OF U.S. BEEF UNDER GLOBAL QUOTA HAVE NEVER BEEN PROMISING IN PART BECAUSE OF HIGHER MARGINS WHICH SWISS IMPORTERS ABLE OBTAIN FROM MEAT FROM OTHER SUPPLIERS. MOST OF HIGH QUALITY FRESH/CHILLED U.S. BEEF IS USED IN HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS BUT SOME ALSO SOLD AT RETAIL. SPECIAL U.S. QUOTA WAS INCREASED TO 300 TONS IN 1971. SWISS OFFICIALS HAVE IN PAST HINTED THAT SWISS CONCESSION ON BEEF MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IN MTN BUT UNTIL THAT TIME SMALL QUOTA OFFERS U.S. SUPPLIERS OPPORTUNITY MAINTAIN LIMITED POSITION IN SWITZERLAND.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, SZ, US  
**To:** STATE  
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